

Washington, DC - Rep. Linda Sánchez (D-CA) announced today that she has secured initial support for over \$3 million in federal funding for projects across her Southern California district, including programs in the Long Beach area. Most of these investments were included in the Omnibus appropriations bill passed by the House of Representatives today. The bill will now proceed to the Senate then be signed by the President to become law.

“This funding is an important step to provide new opportunities for our students who need it most,” said Congresswoman Sánchez. “I am also pleased to promote programs and initiatives that impact our environment in a positive way.”

These investments include:

Hawaiian Gardens:

**\* \$100,000 for Hawaiian Gardens Drop Out Prevention Program:** These funds will expand an existing and successful drop-out prevention and intervention program. Funds will pay for school counselors who will focus on at-risk youth and provide classroom presentations, discussion groups, home visits, excursions, guest speakers, and homework assistance. The program will be a collaboration with ABC Unified School District and local city government to maximize resources so that local youth can achieve their potential.

**\* \$200,000 for Bus Shelters for City of Hawaiian Gardens:** Congresswoman Sánchez secured funding to purchase and install eight bus transit shelters in the City of Hawaiian Gardens. The addition of these bus shelters will facilitate greater use of public transit.

Artesia:

**\* \$250,000 for Solar Lights for Artesia Park:** This federal funding will be used to install solar powered lights with battery backups to replace existing lights in several parks and adjoining parking lots. This project will lower greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the city's long term energy costs.

Long Beach:

**\* \$100,000 for Environmental Job Training Program for Youth At-Risk in Southeast Los Angeles County:** Funding will expand a successful youth job training program that supervises, trains, and temporarily employs youth at-risk. This program gives high school age students and young adults jobs skills while performing environmentally-friendly projects that help the local community. Youth work on supervised local projects for park and playground construction and providing environmental clean-up. This program has a successful record of steering youth at-risk away from crime and towards well-paying, permanent jobs.

“It is a priority of mine to bring home federal funding that will invest in our own communities, especially for the education of our youth” said Congresswoman Linda Sánchez. “During these tough economic times, smart investments in our children and workforce will yield great rewards

for local families.”

###